

Application Ser. No.: 10/031,764
Filing Date: September 30, 2002
Examiner: Audet, Maury A.

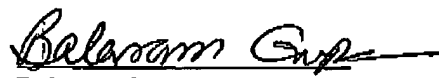
Remarks

A Notice of Allowance of this application was mailed on February 23, 2006. The Issue Fee is due on May 23, 2006 and has not yet been paid. However, Examiner Audet telephoned the undersigned on March 10, 2006 and informed him that claim 1, as amended, in Applicants' response of January 18, 2006 still reads on US patent 5,541,160. As a result, the undersigned suggested that claim 1 be amended by incorporating all of the limitations of claim 5 and cancel claims 4 and 5 with which Examiner agreed. The undersigned appreciates the courtesies extended by the Examiner. Now, by way of this amendment, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 5 and claims 4 and 5 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that this amendment will not require an additional search by the Examiner, and does not raise new issues. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment be entered.

Applicants believe there are no fees due for this Rule 312 Amendment. However, if the Examiner deems that fees are due, please charge these fees to Deposit Account No. 18-1982 for Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc. Bridgewater, NJ. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1982.

Respectfully submitted,

March 10, 2006


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